

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a horrible sign of what it is like to live in a country where what the viewer sees is controlled by either the government or a similar powerful entity-namely a broadcasting giant.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge in America, and is obligated by law and laws of morality to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what agrees with the company's philosophy and less of what is fair in a democracy. Instead of something produced by a partisan group, it's more important that we see balanced opinions from a variety of sources and more substantive news about issues that pertain to today's real problems.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.